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**CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
TOLEDO**

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
WESTERN DIVISION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

WILLIAM A. SIRLS

Defendant.

INFORMATION

3:07CR00088
Cr. No.

**Title 18, United States Code,
Section 1341,
Title 18, United States Code,
Section 1957,
Title 18, United States Code,
Section 982**

The United States Attorney charges that:

JUDGE ZOUHARY

**COUNT 1
MAIL FRAUD**

From on or about January 1, 2000, to on or about September 30, 2006, in the Northern District of Ohio, Western Division and elsewhere, defendant WILLIAM A. SIRLS, former Senior Vice-President and Manager of the Wachovia Securities office in Toledo, Ohio, devised and executed a scheme and artifice to defraud clients of and co-workers at the Wachovia Securities office in Toledo, Ohio, and other individuals, and for obtaining approximately \$17,000,000 to \$40,000,000 in money or property by means of false and fraudulent pretenses,

ORIGINAL

representations, promises, and omissions, and in furtherance thereof, knowingly and unlawfully caused to be placed in and/or delivered by United States mail or by private or commercial interstate carrier, among other items, promissory notes, letters, and other items relating to investments and/or loans individuals made with/to defendant WILLIAM A. SIRLS and relating to repayment of said investments and/or loans by defendant WILLIAM A. SIRLS.

As part of the scheme and artifice to defraud, and to obtain money or property by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, promises and omissions, from approximately 45 individuals, defendant WILLIAM A. SIRLS:

(1) solicited investments in nonexistent “busted trades,” meaning investment in purported profit derived from a stock brokerage firm purchasing and later selling a stock at a profit after a client of the stock brokerage firm ordered a purchase of the stock but failed to pay for it;

(2) solicited investments in nonexistent “builder discounted real estate,” meaning investment in purported profit derived from the resale of the last few houses in a newly built housing development, which houses the builder purportedly sold at a discount in order to complete the sale of all houses in the housing development and begin building a new housing development;

(3) issued promissory notes to investors in which he falsely promised to return invested funds to investors within periods of time as short as 14 days at high rates of interest; and

(4) used funds fraudulently obtained from later investors to pay earlier investors, falsely representing to the earlier investors that the funds returned represented their principal plus profits from the investment.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1341.

COUNT 2
ENGAGING IN MONETARY TRANSACTIONS
IN PROPERTY DERIVED FROM SPECIFIED UNLAWFUL ACTIVITY

The allegations of Count 1 are realleged and incorporated herein.

From on or about January 1, 2000, to on or about September 30, 2006, in the Northern District of Ohio, Western Division and elsewhere, defendant WILLIAM A. SIRLS knowingly engaged in, attempted to engage in, and caused monetary transactions totaling approximately between \$17,000,000 and \$40,000,000 in criminally derived property, specifically the mail fraud scheme described in Count 1, that were of a value greater than \$10,000 and were derived from specified unlawful activity and affecting interstate commerce.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1957.

FORFEITURE ALLEGATION

The United States Attorney realleges and incorporates by reference herein the allegations of Count 2 of the Indictment for the purpose of alleging forfeiture pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 982 and Title 21, United States Code, Section 853.

As a result of his violations of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1957 as alleged in the foregoing Information, WILLIAM A. SIRLS, defendant herein, shall forfeit to the United States all property, real and personal, involved in the aforestated offenses and all property traceable to such property, including but not limited to the following:

1. Currency:

\$17,000,000 in United States currency and all interest and proceeds traceable thereto, in that such sum is property which was involved in the aforestated offenses or is traceable to such property.

2. Corporate, Trust and Other Artificial Entity Assets:

All property in whatever form and wherever located which defendant WILLIAM A. SIRLS owns or controls directly or indirectly through a third party or through any artificial entity.

3. Real Estate:

The property known as 1404 Southfield Road, Lincoln Park, Michigan,

The property known as 1536 Hanover, Lincoln Park, Michigan, Elmwood Heights subdivision, Lot 67.

The property known as 1405 Montie, Lincoln Park, Michigan;

The property known as 18036 Schoenherr, Detroit, Michigan, Grotto View subdivision, Lots 36, 37, 38.

The property known as 16715 Weddell, Taylor, Michigan, Liddell & Chamblin subdivision, Lot 417.

The property known as 6466 Cooper, Taylor, Michigan, Taylor Heights subdivision, Lot 426.

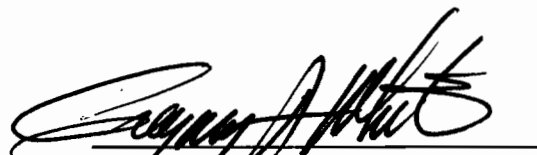
The property known as 8311 Sherwood Drive, Grosse Ile, Michigan.

4. Substitute Assets:

If any of the forfeitable property described above, as a result of any act or omission of the defendant:

- (a) Cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- (b) Has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party;
- (c) Has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the court;
- (d) Has been substantially diminished in value; or
- (e) Has been commingled with other property which cannot be subdivided without difficulty,

it is the intent of the United States, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(b)(1) and Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p) to seek forfeiture of any other property (commonly called "substitute assets") of said defendant up to the value of the above forfeitable property. All forfeitable pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 982 and Title 21, United States Code, Section 853.



GREGORY A. WHITE
United States Attorney